the Registration Committee and waiting period is observed, it would not leave excessive residues on treated crops.

Keeping in view the growing concern regarding pesticides residues, the Government started an All India Coordinated Research Project on Pesticide Residues with 17 Coordinated centres all over the country during 1984-85, with a view to develop protocols for safe use of pesticides by recommending Good Agricultural Practices, based on multi-location supervised field trials. In addition, Maximum Residues Limits (MRLs) for various insecticides are also fixed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Further, the Government is promoting the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy in overall crop production programmes. Under IPM programme, the use of non-chemical methods including bio-pesticides and bio-control agents is being encouraged. The manufacturers of pesticides being encouraged. The manufactures of pesticides in the country are governed by the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Rules framed thereunder.

(e) and (f) The Directors of Agriculture of respective States issue licenses for the manufacture of pesticides in their States after the registration is granted by the Registration Committee (RC). They are also drawing pesticides samples from the Manufacturing Units as well as from Distribution Points for laboratory testing to ensure quality of pesticides, besides creating awareness amongst farming community regarding safe and judicious use of pesticides.

Saving-cum-relief scheme for fishermen in Kerala

1349. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal requesting to grant administrative sanction for the old pattern of saving-cum-relief scheme for fishermen from Kerala;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in the matter;

(c) whether Government would consider to accord sanction for the proposal of the scheme and release the matching contributions as requested by Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) No such proposal of Government of Kerala is under consideration at present. The saving-cum-relief (SCR) component of the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen was revised in 2000-2001. As per revised funding pattern of SCR component, the marine fisher has to contribute Rs. 75 per month instead of Rs. 45 during the non-lean period of 8 months. The accumulated amount together with matching amount shared by the Central and State Government on 50:50 basis is disbursed to the beneficiaries in four monthly installments of Rs. 300 each during the lean period. The Central assistance is extended to the States including Kerala on receipt of proposals as per existing guidelines of the scheme. However, Central assistance of Rs. 485.5 lakh has been extended to State of Kerala in 2002-2003 under various schemes for the benefit of fisherfolk.

Constitutional Status to CACP

1350. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any suggestion has been received by Government to provide constitutional status to the Commission of Agriculture Costs and Prices;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) by when the final decision will be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) One of the recommendations under the head "Mimimum Support Prices and Procurement" made by the High Level Committee on Long—